

The Ames Intelligencer

Published by Ames Heritage Association, Inc.

FALL 1996

Ames Was A Many Horse Town: Some Spectacular Runaways

by *Farwell T. Brown*

I can still remember horses that ran away or got tangled up with other buggies or wagons - and drivers yelling at their horses - and at other drivers. Here follow several notable headlines from years past.

September 3, 1908:

**Laundry Horses Tired of
Simple Life
And Raced Up And Down
The (Blocks) Like
Kentucky Thoroughbreds-
Little Damage Done**

In order to start the day off right, the Dixon Laundry team broke away from its moorings last Tuesday and furnished amusement and excitement for the natives for the next fifteen minutes. It was the fastest obstacles race that has been pulled off in this vicinity for some time.

In the back seat with Mrs. Nowlin had been her little daughter. In the front seat was Mr. Nowlin with

Miss Kronberg of Minneapolis. When she saw the horse jump toward the car, Miss Kronberg turned and snatched the little girl into the front seat, saving her from serious injury. Mrs. Carey was thrown out of the buggy and at first was thought to have been seriously injured. Mrs. Carey is now recovering and resting well at the Frey house.



December 6, 1915:

Sermon Was Enticing

Fred Randau was so engrossed in Reverend Harris' sermon last Sunday morning at the Christian Church that he did not recognize the noise made by his horse that was hitched in front of the church. Following the service, Randau discovered that his horse had pulled loose from the hitching post and had run off with the family buggy. The truant horse ran down Burnett, where it had been put into the livery stable on Main Street. Very little damage is reported to either the horse or the buggy. The Randau family had a late Sunday dinner.



1908 photo looks west down Onondaga (Main) Street, with buggies in front of the Morris Livery.
Photo courtesy of Farwell Brown photo collection.

Bauge Home Progress Report

Furnishings Wish List

With restoration of the interior of the Bauge Log Home progressing, the following items are being sought to furnish the home in the 1890 to 1910 time period:

Kitchen: dry sink, kitchen cabinet, wood box, table & benches, tea leaf ironstone dishes, linoleum rugs, tea kettle, lefse rolling pin, coffee pot, ladle, bowls, granite ware pans

North bedroom: dresser, chamber pot, feather pillows

South bedroom: bed, feather mattress, pillows, dresser, quilt, bedding linens, kerosene lamp, chamber pot, coverlet

Front room: fainting couch, book case writing desk, library table, wall telephone

Pantry: pantry cupboard, molasses containers, apple peeler, cherry seeder, wooden masher, grater, eggbeaters

Upstairs loft: Norwegian chest, three beds, feather mattresses, pillows, bed linens, cedar chest, chamber pot, kerosene lamps, dresser, trunk, book case, vintage clothing (birth to eighteen), vintage hangers for displaying.

To donate Bauge Home furnishings, call Evelyn Thielen, 296-2439 or Kay Beckett, 233-1695.

Also needed are: used 1x6 tongue & groove pine flooring, 4 to 5 interior doors with vertical panels & hardware, beaded ceiling boards, field stones for foundation.

To donate construction materials, call Rollie Struss, 232-0865

Date Set For Bauge Open House

Early notice!

**Bauge Open House and AHA
Annual Meeting**

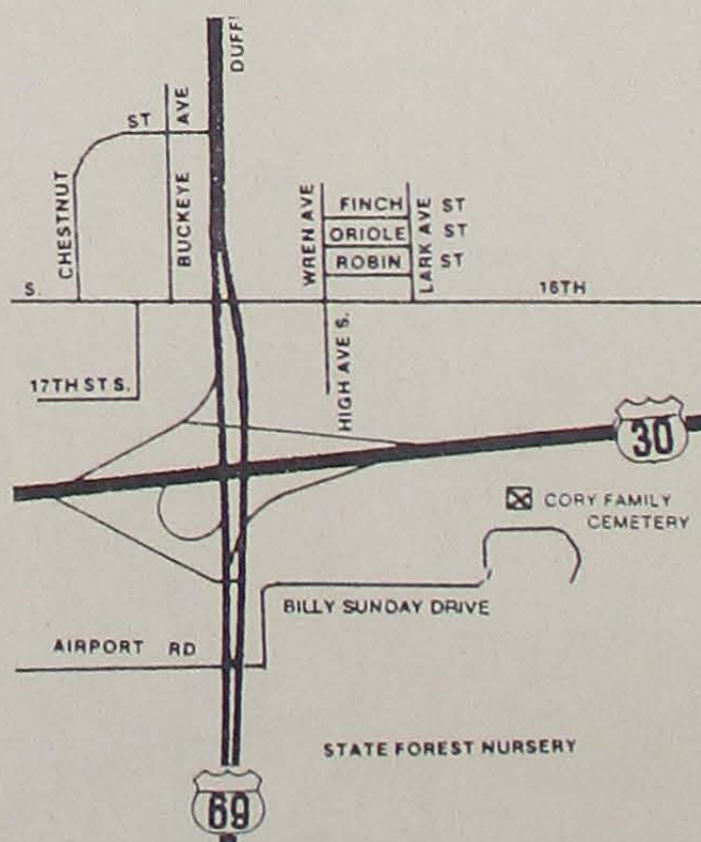
Sunday, April 20, 1997

**at McFarland Park
Conservation Center
and Bauge Home**

Program will feature presentations from the Bauge Home Interpretive Guide, by Leo Landis, ISU.

Access Established To Cory Family Cemetery & Billy Sunday Birthplace

Visitors interested in accessing the Cory Family Cemetery and Billy Sunday Birthplace at the former water pollution control plant, may obtain a key from Animal Shelter & Control at 325 Billy Sunday Drive. The key will unlock gates across the road. The site requires walking and visitors are advised to wear casual clothes and sturdy shoes.



New Time Capsule For Old City Hall

AHA is collecting items for the new time capsule to be buried outside 1915 City Hall, now being renovated by Youth & Shelter Services. A 'slice of 1996' is sought.

Here are items gathered so far:

- City budget and capital plan
- Ames Land Use Policy Plan
- City map
- 1996 water and electrical rates
- List of City officials & employees
- Electrical Dept. 100th Anniversary
- Resource Recovery Plant info
- Public Library info
- Library internet policy
- Parks & Recreation brochure
- 1996 phone book
- 1996 Chamber of Commerce members
- Postcards of ISU & Ames
- ISU college catalog
- Ames schools curricula
- Ames High yearbook
- Information on retail areas
- Reiman Gardens brochure
- Ames Community Arts Council
- Mary Greeley Medical Center info
- McFarland Clinic info
- Iowa State Center season and other arts events
- pictures of public art
- 1996 Historic Home Tour brochure
- Iowa Sesquicentennial items
- Grocery store, housing & car ads
- a section of classified ads
- pictures of clothing styles
- Iowa Games 10th Anniversary
- Ginkgo Festival info
- Veishea 1996 program
- Program guide for WOI radio
- TV guide
- Current movie info
- 1996 flood info
- articles on current Ames/Iowa issues (hog lots, etc.)
- Iowa 150 & other postage stamps
- DOT and NADL info

*Additional ideas are welcome.
Call Kathy Svec, 232-4877.*

Planning For a Museum Continues

The Story Center Planning Group Receives HRDP Grant

In October, AHA's museum planning committee received word that they had won a grant from the state's Historic Resources Development Program. Despite the very limited dollars available to the review committee to allocate to groups throughout the state, AHA's request was awarded \$5000 and commended for being well-written.

The grant money will hire an expert to direct a more in-depth assessment of the community's interest in the museum, and to identify sources of funding. Work has begun to identify a number of experts who will be invited to apply.

The state has given AHA two years to complete the project, though it is the intention of the planning group to complete the assessment by the fall of 1997.

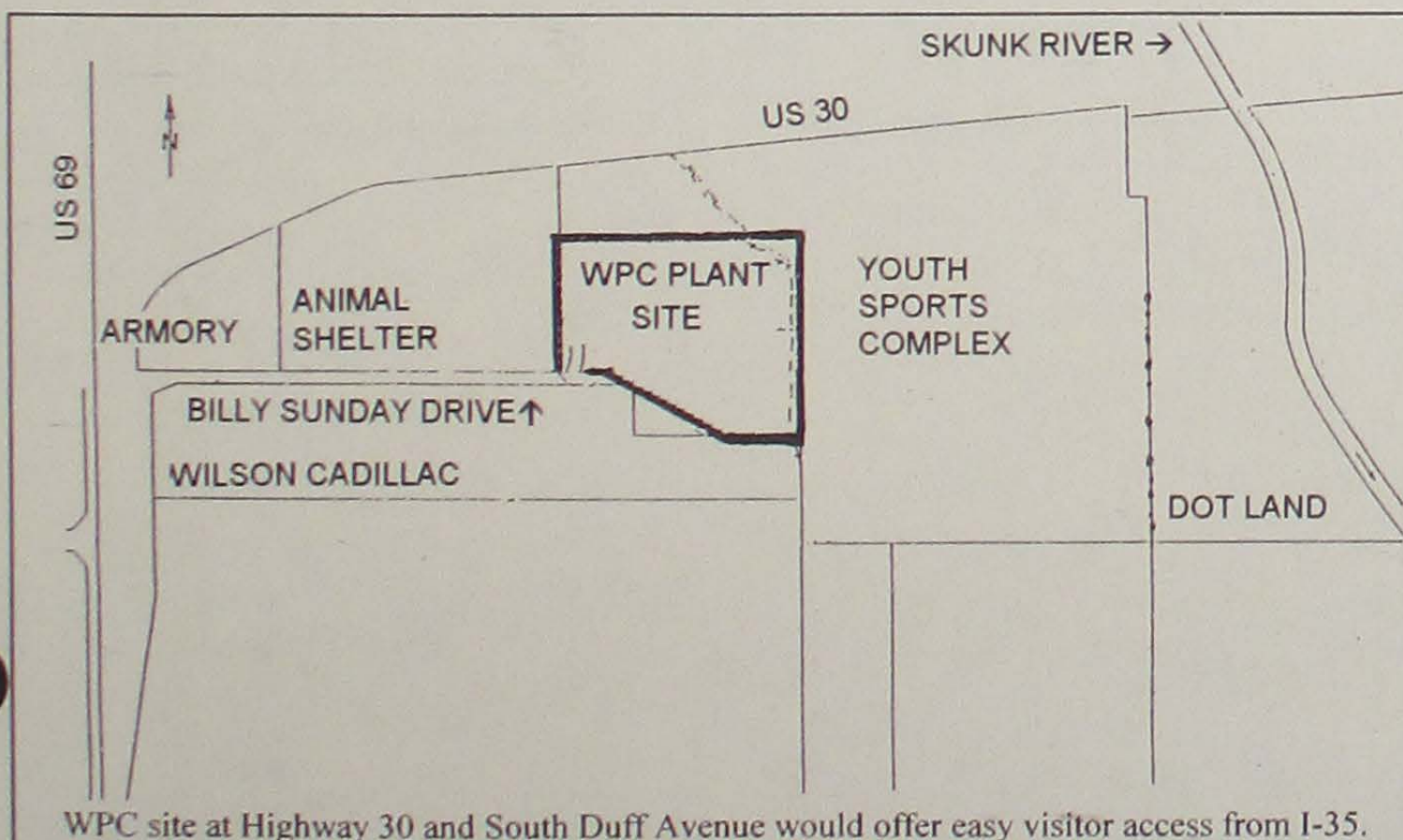
Council Agrees To Hold Former Water Pollution Control Site For Museum Planners

In August, the Ames City Council agreed to hold the former water pollution control plant site for two years to allow planners to complete their funding and operational plan for the museum.

This decision was an alternative to AHA's request to lease the site, a request deemed premature by city officials.

Planners were very pleased with the decision, which allows them needed time without jeopardizing the potential use of the site, provided community assessment reveals sufficient support for the museum at that location.

Inherent in the Council's agreement was the City's intent to seek short-term uses for the site, and in October, approval was granted to the Iowa Energy Center to conduct research in the circular digesters and a portion of the administration building. Their research will take a year or longer, and will slow building deterioration caused by lack of heat and regular occupation. The lease for research dovetails well with the museum planning group's timeline.



WPC site at Highway 30 and South Duff Avenue would offer easy visitor access from I-35.



STORY CENTER
HISTORICAL & CULTURAL CENTER

Gift From 3M Will Assist Planning

The 3M Corporation, which has plants in three Iowa communities, presented a gift to the Iowa Sesquicentennial Commission to support the many activities of Iowa's 150th birthday celebration. 3M indicated their interest in seeing the money go to the communities where 3M plants are located. In accordance with this wish, the Ames Heritage Association received \$1500 for the museum planning effort.

Story County Historical Summit Set For Jan. 4

A meeting of history-minded persons from all Story County communities is planned for January 4, 1997, in the Ames Public Library Auditorium.

The session from 10am to 1pm is being planned by the Story County Sesquicentennial Commission.

The purpose of the meeting is to explore these questions:

- What is the condition of the historical record in Story County communities?
- What historical resources and organizations currently exist in each community?
- What can be done as a county to strengthen our efforts and preserve resources?
- What county-wide heritage tourism opportunities can be explored and developed?

Lunch will be served. Those interested in attending may RSVP to Priscilla Matt, 232-7688.

Hoggatt School Repairs

Hoggatt School's front door has been replaced and repaired. An exterior shutter will be placed to protect the door from stray balls and nearby school yard activity. AHA hopes to have regular school open houses next spring and summer, and will train guides.

Volunteers wishing to learn to give tours may call Don Faas, 292-1613.

Wanted: Transcriptionists

A person or persons skilled at transcribing audio tapes is sought to transform taped interviews to written pages. For more information, call Kathy Svec at 232-4877.

No Answer To A Historical Question!

During a recent AHA Board meeting, it was noted that Hoggatt School's pictures of Washington and Lincoln don't "match". This question then arose: In 1862, would a school have had a picture of Lincoln hanging on the wall? If so, what picture would have been used? Our inquiries to experts in Springfield, Illinois left them equally stumped! The solution was to frame a picture of a younger Lincoln.

Ames Heritage Association Board:
President: Kathy Svec; Vice-president: Don Faas;
Secretary: Nancy Osborn; Treasurer: Bill LaGrange; Sharon Wirth, Jack Adams, Coleen Nutty, Kay Beckett, Rollie Struss, Willie Struss, David Ballard, Jr., Evelyn Thielen, Lois Vohs

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The Ames Heritage Association is a legally incorporated, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting interest in state and local history through educational publications, programs and displays. The Board meets the 3rd Monday of each month, September - June. Interested persons are welcome.

Event Review:

*Past Tradition, Present
Strength, Future Hope*
1996 Historic Home Tour
September 28 - 29, 1996

This year's home tour summoned in me - as usual - a great sense of hope and amazement. Hope, because in the seven years since the historic district was established, the effect of intensive home maintenance by dozens of individuals gives the impression of a strong, unified and sustained effort. Amazement, because of the devotion to projects that seem - well, not wholly practical in any way!

The tour was expanded to two days for the Iowa Sesquicentennial, and included a greater variety of structures - including a long-time downtown business, Carr Hardware, several churches, and a preview of the 1915 City Hall renovation by YSS in addition to private homes. Several Main Street store windows also displayed exhibits highlighting downtown history and past business leaders. Two beautiful autumn days were the perfect setting for this year's Historic Home Tour.



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Ames Heritage Association
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Organizers selected an interesting sample of structures demonstrating a number of ideas. Leah Mully's 1920's bungalow had been moved out of the path of hospital expansion, and looked none the worse for the wear in its new location. John and Janet Lott are in the long-term process of changing their 1874 Victorian home from multiple apartments back to a single family dwelling. Signs in strategic locations told (with wry humor) the trials and tribulations of restoration. The 1901 home of Ingrid and Walter Anderson was an enlightening demonstration of how to appropriately update a kitchen and bathroom, and integrate a modern addition onto a period structure.

Although I live fairly close to the historic district, it seems my daily route seldom takes me through the neighborhood. It was wonderful to have an excuse to walk and "permission" to gawk at the improvements taking place throughout the area - proof positive that strong neighborhoods make our town a more vital place in which to live.

Review by Kathy Svec, AHA Board

The Ames Intelligencer is named after an early Ames newspaper and is published three times a year for Association members. Comments or questions may be directed to the Editor.

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